

Connecticut State Police
T I P S
Topics in Public Safety

HOME SAFETY

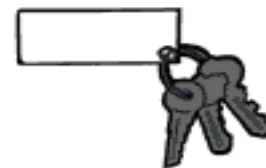
Keeping your home and family safe takes a few simple steps. Follow these tips to ensure that you are protected.

At home

- Use deadbolt locks on all doors and keep locked at all times.
- Use quality locks on windows and sliding doors and ensure that they are in working order.
- Install a deadbolt lock on the door between the house and an attached garage.
- Be sure the number on your house is visible and lighted or reflective so that emergency personnel can find it quickly.
- Keep your main entrance visible from the street and well-lit at night.
- Do not hide keys anywhere around the outside of the house.
- Never let strangers into your home without checking their identification.
- Know your neighbors and keep their phone numbers handy for emergencies.
- Trim trees and shrubs around the house and under windows to eliminate hiding places for thieves.
- Keep the exterior of the home, especially around windows and doors, well lit.
- Install outside lights equipped with motion detectors.



- Use timers on lamps to create the impression of an occupied home.
- Move all tools and ladders into a garage or shed when not in use. Keep the garage or shed locked.
- Lock your vehicles parked at home.
- Report suspicious neighborhood activity to the police.



When going on vacation:

- Complete yard work before leaving. Arrange for someone to mow the lawn and/or water flowers if you will be gone for an extended period of time.
- Cancel your newspaper and ask the post office or a neighbor to hold your mail.
- Arrange for a trusted neighbor to keep an eye on your house and to call the police if anything suspicious occurs.
- Install light timers on lamps to give the appearance that the home is occupied.
- Turn down the volume on your phone and answering machine.



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